Attorney Docket No. 24224 Serial No. 09/610,489

Attachment B is a clean copy of amended claim 19. The Attachments are included in accordance with the regulations implementing the AIPA.

REMARKS

Claims 1-33 are currently under consideration in the present patent application. Claims 1, 15 and 33 are independent claims drawn to a rapid-melt semi-solid composition and method of preparing the same, respectively. The remaining claims depend from the independent claims. Claim 19 has been amended to be a method claim and properly depend from claim 18, also a method claim. Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter within the meaning of 35 USC 132 is added by the amendment.

Claims 9-12, 24 and 25 stand rejected under 35 USC §112, first paragraph. Claims 1-30 stand rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph. Claims 1, 4-7, 9-15, 18-21 and 23-33 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being obvious over Raiden et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,840,334).

Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections for the reasons set forth below, and respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal thereof.